## ISLAND COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH



Coupeville, WA 98239

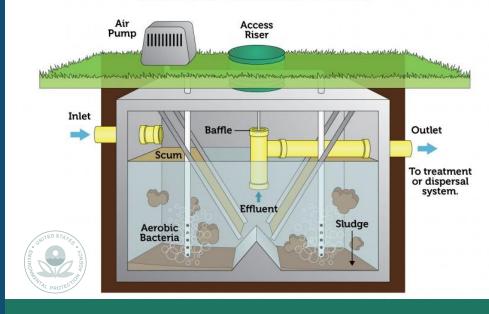
## **Helpful Tips**

- Professionals recommend more complex systems receive annual inspections!
- Make space for your air pump, don't crowd it!
- Ensure your
   disinfector
   lightbulb is
   working—call a
   septic
   professional or an
   electrician!

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## Aerobic Treatment Units

## **Aerobic Treatment Unit**



Aerobic Treatment Units (ATU) are a more recent type of septic system treatment components, that provide added protection on sites with poor soils, high water tables, or are on the shoreline. The ATU works by pumping air from the external environment into the tank. The additional oxygen allows for increased activity of bacteria found in the tank environment which helps treat and break down nutrients. Some units include a disinfecting feature to reduce pathogens in the wastewater.